



Transforming Child Welfare Services: HB 2106

Performance Based Contracting for Purchased Services (phase I)

To implement Performance Based Contracting for Purchased Services, Children's Administration will:

- Convert client service contracts we use today to contracts tied directly to outcomes set by Children's Administration; and
- Significantly restructure the contract service system by consolidating and reducing the number of contracts issued by Children's Administration, while ensuring a consistent array of services for children and families.

This conversion will clarify the child and family outcomes Children's Administration seeks from service providers. Children's Administration will measure outcomes and performance of service providers. We will make progress toward achieving consistent, statewide access to a core group of services for every child and family served by the child welfare system. Children's Administration will have contracts consolidated and converted to Performance Based Contracting for Purchased Services by July 1, 2011.

Goals for the transformation to Performance Based Contracts for Purchased Services are to:

- Safely reduce the number of children under dependency orders in Washington;
- Enhance services and supports to help children and families;
- Improve the ease with which DSHS social workers access the right service to children and families every time;
- Achieve more consistent statewide capacity and access to a core group of services for every child and family served by the child welfare system, in their community;
- Act as good stewards of public funds and public trust; and
- Provide culturally competent services to address unique needs of children and families.

What does this mean?

- Social workers will get help coordinating services, improving the referral process and allowing easier access to services for children and families.
- Contractors will help social workers by scheduling travel, and making multiple referrals for multiple services.
- Having this network of care will increase the ability to identify and match services to account for unique family needs.
- Converting to performance based contracts for purchased services will not result in reductions of highly skilled, professional social work positions.
- We will require contractors to meet outcomes identified in their contracts, just as Children's Administration is accountable to meet identified performance measures.

Who is participating in the planning of Performance Based Contracting for Services?

Children's Administration staff from every region and headquarters, including social workers, supervisors, contracts managers, and management, are participating in the development and design of performance based contracts for purchased services. Providers and other community partners are participating in community forums statewide, offering input on the design of the new network of care.

For more information and to comment, go to: <http://www.dshs.wa.gov/ca/partners/transformCW.asp>

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

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